



Sermon Outline
March 10, 2024
Pastor Bryan Myers

Birth 2.0

John 3:1-10

*** March Encounter Challenge:** Read **John's** account of Jesus' life and teaching by the end of the month.

Encounter #10

John 3:1-10 – Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. 2 He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." 3 Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." 4 "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!" 5 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." 9 "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. 10 "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things?"

** Nicodemus wasn't just a Jew - he was an _____ Jew. He had all the credentials and was supposed to have all the answers. And yet—there he was **under cover of night**.*

Encounter Observations:

1. Nicodemus was taking a _____ to express genuine curiosity towards Jesus.

John 12:42 - Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not openly acknowledge their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue.

2. His religious training and _____ did not guarantee accurate spiritual discernment or understanding.

Vs. 10 - "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things?"

** Nicodemus made the mistake that folks frequently made when speaking to Jesus. They often thought He was speaking literally, physically, when in fact He was speaking spiritually.*

3. His theology contained the underlying assumption he was in control of his own spiritual _____.

Encounter Applications:

1. No one is _____ born into faith.

** Obviously the _____ birth we experience is physical and natural. The second is spiritual and supernatural.*

** Having _____ in, fascination with, respectfulness for, or general positivity towards Jesus Christ is not to be equated with truly being born again.*

2. Birth is not something we _____. It's something that happens to us.

John 1:12-13 - Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God - children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

** The requirement to be born again _____ the insufficiency of "do-more-try-harder Christianity," "turn-over-a-new-leaf religion" or "find-myself spirituality."*

3. To be born again is to be _____ transformed at a heart level by the Spirit of God, so you can know God and live for Him in His kingdom.



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